




RYTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the
Year 1963



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Health Department,
Council Offices,
Ryton Towers,
Ryton.

Telephone :
Ryton 2261

July, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Ryton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

There has been an increase in the population of the District compared with 1962, the natural increase being 55 and that for the estimated population 60.

Both the birth rate and the number of births show an increase, as do the number of deaths and death rate, compared with 1962, the death rate being a little higher than for the country as a whole and for Durham County, while the infant mortality rate shows an increase, due entirely to 3 deaths from congenital abnormalities and 3 from prematurity. It must be appreciated that, in small populations, considerable variability in these rates can occur entirely by chance. All but 1 infant death occurred during the first week of life, a reflection of the benefits derived from the high standard of ante-natal and of post-natal care, as does the continued record of no deaths resulting from pregnancy or other maternal causes.

Cardio-vascular diseases still account for the greatest number of deaths, claiming 95 of the 181 deaths which were recorded. Again just under half were due to coronary disease. 26 deaths occurred from cancer.

246 cases of infectious disease were notified, the high figure compared with 1962 being almost entirely due to measles, which showed the usual pattern of increase in alternate years. Of the remaining 8 cases notified, 4 were due to respiratory tuberculosis which figure, nevertheless, shows a decrease compared with the 1962 figure. The total number of registered tuberculosis sufferers fell from 78 to 70, with 1 death resulting from the disease. 2 cases of whooping cough and 2 of scarlet fever were notified. It is pleasing to report that no case of food poisoning was recorded.

Immunisation programmes continue to be pursued vigorously, with prophylaxis against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis. Protection against all except smallpox and tuberculosis can be given singly or in various combinations. Protection against poliomyelitis is now almost exclusively by means of oral vaccine. Vaccination with B.C.G., as a protection against tuberculosis, continues to be carried out yearly. The percentage protection figures for the District compare most favourably with those for the County and for the country as a whole.

Details of the operation in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and of the Mobile X-ray Unit are given in the text of the Report.

With the virtual completion of the Council's original slum clearance programme, action under the Housing Act, 1957 was limited to individual unfit properties, from which 12 tenants were rehoused during the year. Whilst all obviously unfit houses have now been dealt with, there remain a number of

dwellings which, although not below the defined standard of fitness, are nevertheless, below the general standard of housing accommodation within the District. It would appear that future progress in connection with the betterment of housing conditions will depend to a large extent upon the introduction of a revised national standard and, possibly, upon measures designed to compel the improvement of dwellings lacking modern amenities.

Once again, the response from landlords to the offer of improvement grants was disappointing. Of the 83 applications received, 8 only related to tenanted houses. Without the active co-operation of landlords, there seems little prospect of arresting the decay which is liable to occur in the older terrace-type houses.

The condition of food premises has continued to be satisfactory and no particular problems in connection with food supplies arose.

The continuing development of housing and industrial sites within the District imposed further burdens on the refuse collection service which, nevertheless, was consistently maintained throughout the year. The acquisition of a tipping site remote from housing development proved to be a most satisfactory arrangement.

Sewage disposal continued to be a problem where residential development had taken place beyond the limits of the existing sewerage system. The small disposal works installed to serve this development cannot be regarded as satisfactory and replacement by a pumping station was authorised by the Council.

No action was taken by the Council to formulate a Smoke Control programme but the measurement of local pollution by smoke and sulphur dioxide was undertaken.

Good progress has been made throughout the year in improving both sanitary and health measures. I would take the opportunity of thanking members of the Health Committee and of the Council for the understanding and co-operation which has made my duties the more pleasing and the work of the Department the more effective. The willing collaboration of the County Medical Officer and his staff should not pass unmentioned.

I would record my thanks to colleagues in other Departments for their collaboration whenever sought. I am much indebted to the Public Health Inspector, who has carried on most ably for the greater part of the year without clerical staff; and to his executive staff for excellent work carried out. I would welcome to the staff the new Health Department clerk, Miss Dodd, whose services are being found of great help. The good relations and team work within the Department is reflected in the high standard which has been maintained.

Thanks are due to my Area Health Clerk for her most valuable assistance in organising the Local Health Authority measures in the District and in collecting details of work carried out in this respect for inclusion in this Report.

Finally, I would express appreciation for the very willing collaboration of all Organisations, outside of Local Government, in supplying me with information regarding their own operations in or near the District.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

The Ryton Urban District is situated in the north-west extremity of the county and is bounded on the north by the River Tyne, on the south and east by tributaries known as the local burns, the Blaydon, Barlow and Coal Burns which separate it from the Blaydon Urban District, on the west by the Stanley Burn which forms the boundary between Ryton Urban District and the County of Northumberland.

The Ryton Urban District is divided into four wards, namely, Crookhill, Ryton, Crawcrook and Ryton Woodside. The Ryton, Crookhill and Crawcrook wards, although much lower than Greenside (600 ft.) and the country to the south, stand well above the level of the Tyne, which is about a mile to the north of Crawcrook and half a mile to the north of Ryton. The District has excellent natural drainage. The only low lying parts of the District are the areas near to the river at Clara Vale and at Ryton Haughs where there are two rows of houses near Newburn Bridge.

The greater part of the District is agricultural. There is one brick yard at Crawcrook and a few sand and gravel quarries at Greenside and Crawcrook.

Most of the population is employed at collieries, of which there are three, situated at Greenside, Clara Vale and Barmoor.

The soil is clay and sand.

In July work commenced in connection with the development of the Industrial Estate at Addison. This site comprises approximately $10\frac{1}{2}$ acres and plans were approved in respect of six factories. The erection of two of the factories commenced during the year. The question of developing additional land for industrial purposes is receiving consideration.

II. STATISTICS.

General.

Acreage — 5,145.
Number of inhabited houses :
 Council 1,585 Others 3,261 Total 4,846
Number of Other Premises : 326
Rateable Value : £423.785
Sum represented by a penny rate : £1,690-13-9d.

Vital.

Population —1931 — 14,204.
 1951 — 13,779
 1963 — 13,980 (estimated)

Density of persons per house : 2.88

Births : Comparability Factor : 1.04

Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	114	122	236
Rate per 1,000 population :			C.F. Adjusted
Ryton Urban District		16.88	17.56
Durham County		18.2	17.8
England and Wales		18.2	

Illegitimate Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	3	7	10
Percentage of total live births :	4.24		

Still Births :	Male	Female	Total
Number	3	—	3

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births : 12.55
Total live and still births : 239

Deaths : Comparability Factor : 1.09

	Male	Female	Total
Number	97	84	181
Crude death rate :			C.F. Adjusted
Ryton Urban District		12.95	14.12
Durham County		11.6	14.0
England and Wales		12.2	—

The commonest causes of death during 1963 were :

1. Coronary Disease, Angina	38
2. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	31
3. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	27
4. Other Heart Disease	17
5. Malignant Neoplasms at defined sites	15
6. Bronchitis	11

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year) :

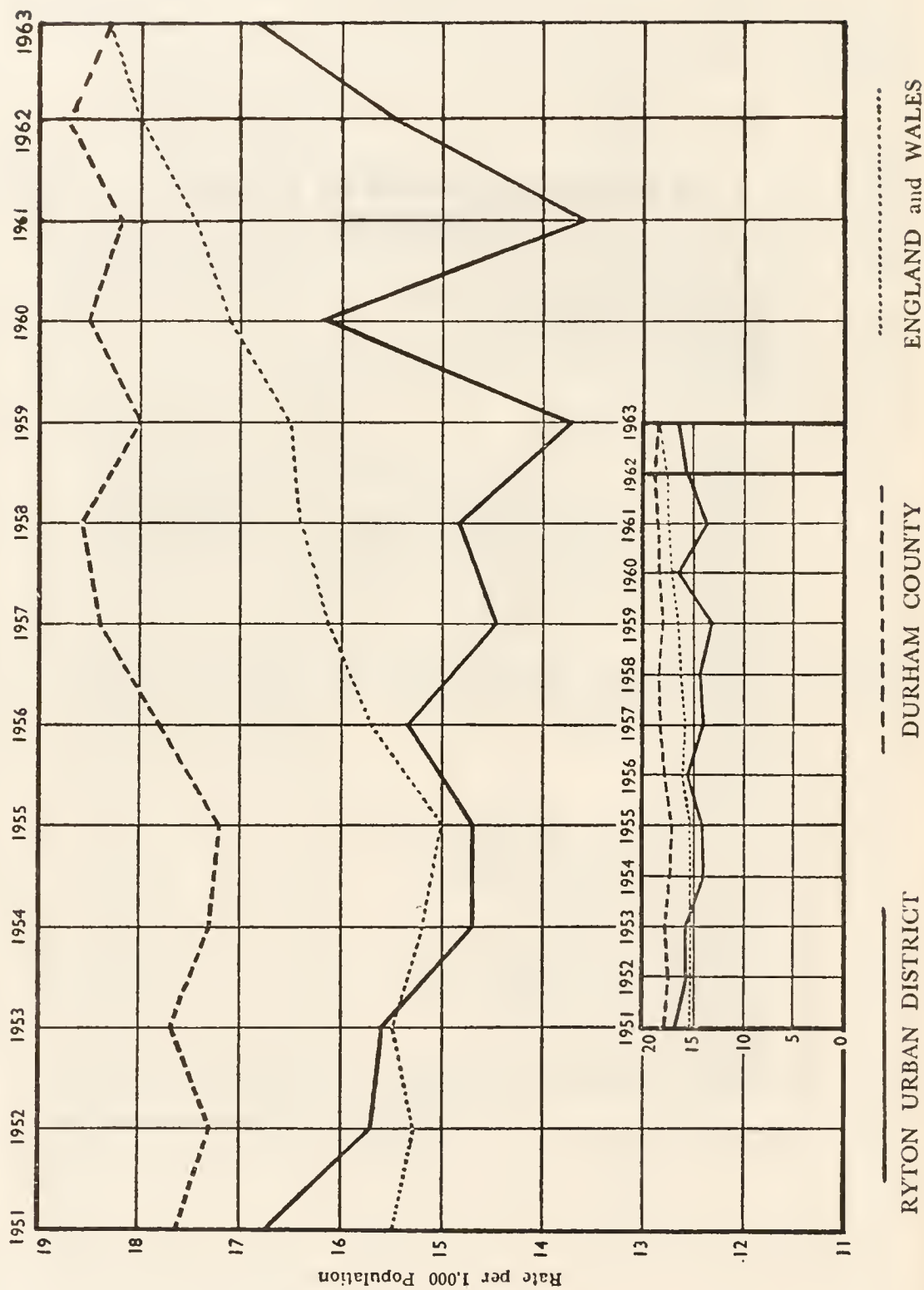
	Male	Female	Total
Number	2	4	6
Infant Mortality Rates (total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births) :			
Ryton Urban District		25.42	
Durham County		22.45	
England and Wales		20.90	
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			22.13
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			100.00
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....			25.42
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).....			21.19
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)			33.47
Causes of Infant Deaths :			
Prematurity			3
Asphyxia neonatorum			1
Hydrocephalus			1
Anencephaly			1
Multiple foetal abnormalities			1
			<hr/>
		*Total.....	7
			<hr/>

*From monthly records and is one in excess of Registrar General's return on S.D.25.

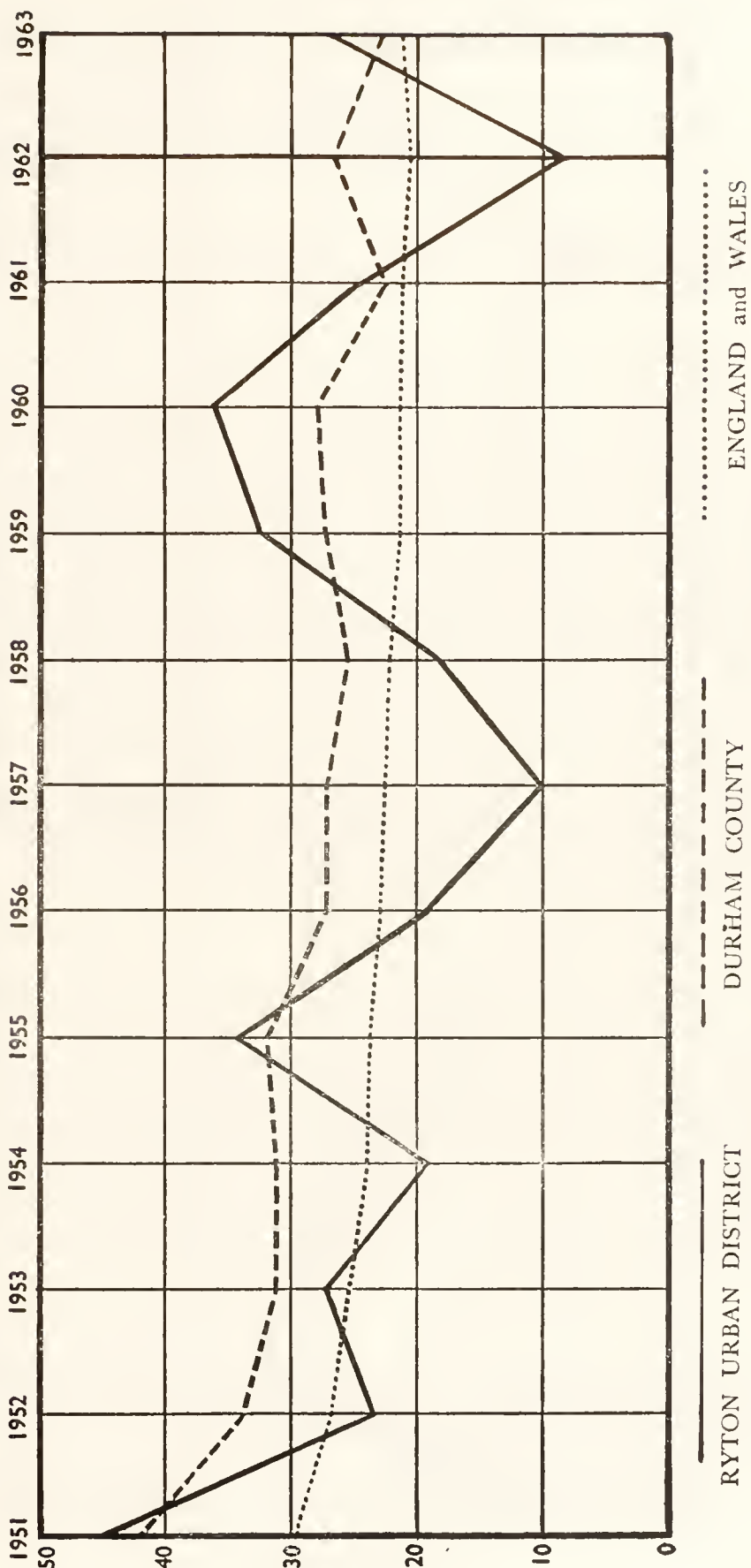
**THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF
DEATH DURING 1963.**

CAUSES OF DEATH		MALES	FEMALES	Total
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	—	1	1
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm-Stomach	4	2	6
11	Malignant Neoplasm-Lung and Bronchus	3	1	4
12	Malignant Neoplasm-Breast	—	3	3
13	Malignant Neoplasm-Uterus	—	2	2
14	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	5	10
15	Leukaemia and Aleukaemia... ..	—	1	1
16	Diabetes	—	—	—
17	Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	16	15	31
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	24	14	38
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	—	—
20	Other Heart Diseases	7	10	17
21	Other Circulatory Diseases	4	5	9
22	Influenza	1	—	1
23	Pneumonia	5	2	7
24	Bronchitis	7	4	11
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	—	—
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ..	—	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	1	2	3
32	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	13	14	27
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	—	—
34	All Other Accidents	5	1	6
35	Suicide	1	1	2
36	Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
TOTALS		97	84	181

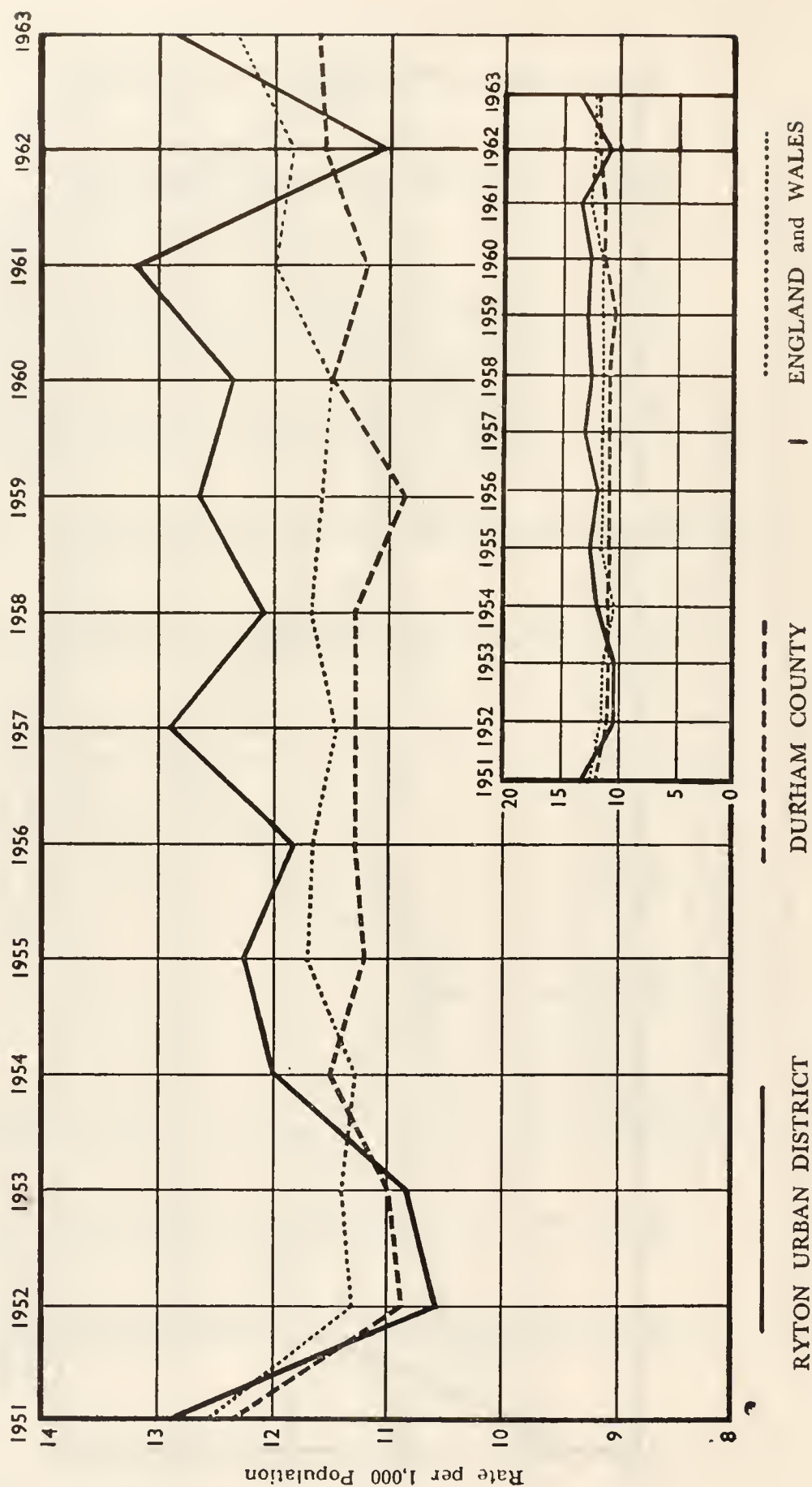
Graph, comparing Birth Rates of RYTON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951



Graph comparing Infant Mortality Rates for RYTON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951.



Graph comparing Death Rates of RYTON URBAN DISTRICT, DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951.



III. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Hospital and Specialist Services Provision.

(1) Hospital Services.

Hospital facilities for the District are provided, through the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee, by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.

(a) General.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the General Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General and the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. Some cases are also referred to and treated at the Hexham General Hospital when convenient. Hospital in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital; and the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 300 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category. It also provides, under the National Assistance Act, Part III Accommodation for patients.

(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.

The great majority of cases of this nature which require hospital treatment are sent either to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General or the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, or the Richard Murray Hospital, Shotley Bridge.

(c) Infectious Diseases.

(i) Tuberculosis.

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculosis cases in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Norman's Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. There is a Chest Clinic attached to the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital where a Chest Physician attends and holds regular clinical sessions. Early diagnosis, of such sufferers and their admission to hospital promptly thereafter, has now been achieved resulting in a much improved prospect of recovery and complete cure.

(ii) Venereal Diseases.

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne 4, where every effort is made to maintain secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General practitioners are able to refer their patients to the Clinic for necessary investigation and treatment.

(iii) Other Infectious Diseases.

Cases of infectious disease requiring isolation, other than tuberculosis, venereal diseases, or smallpox, are treated either at the Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gateshead, or the Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Smallpox cases, should they occur in the District, would be admitted to Langley Park Isolation Hospital.

(d) Mental Health.

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick.

Acute mentally ill patients are normally admitted to St. Nicholas' Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

(e) Convalescent Home.

The establishment, formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home situate in Ryton Urban District, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not accept patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 95 beds, 50 for women patients and the remainder for men.

(2) Laboratory Services.

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of Local Authorities, investigated and reported upon free of charge.

(3) Blood Transfusion Service.

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4. It provides all necessary service for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1963, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panels on the dates listed, also the number of donations which were received during the year.

Name of Panel	Session Centre	Date of Session	Strength of Panel	Total of Attendance
Ryton (Central)	Lecture Hall, Ryton	11th February	167	101
	Methodist Church	12th August	162	97
Ryton (West)	Emma Memorial Hall	13th February	128	87
		19th August	130	74

Further sessions will be arranged in the District during 1964.

(4) Mass Miniature Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is

based on the Newcastle General Hospital, 418 Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne,4. A Mobile Unit visits the District in alternate years and carries out an extensive survey. Accordingly, sessions were held in 1963, the statistics for which are given below.

	Number of Miniature Films			Number referred to Chest Clinic		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Industry	257	10	267	2	—	2
Public	603	694	1,297	24	18	42
Totals	860	704	1,564	26	18	44

Three visits were made to the industrial establishment — Stella South Power Station.

Local Authority Provision.

(1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is the Durham County Council which is responsible for the following Health Services.

- (a) Health Centres.
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of illness; Care and After-Care of sick persons
- (i) Home Help Service
- (j) Mental Health

(a) Health Centres.

There are no Health Centres within the meaning of the Act in operation in the District.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics for the treatment of minor ailments in school children, for dental treatment, maternity and child welfare and for sunray treatment, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District, where mothers and children may attend. Welfare Foods are also distributed from these Centres. Centres in the District hold sessions, provide treatment and supply welfare foods as under :—

Address of Centre			Sessions
Ryton, Grange Road	....	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Mondays weekly and Thursday mornings
		Dental Clinic	Monday to Friday weekly
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	Mondays weekly and Thursday mornings
Greenside, Miners' Welfare Hall	....	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesday afternoons

Assistant Welfare Medical Officers and the Dental Officer attend certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

On the stated days the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is open from 9-30—12 noon and from 1-30—4 p.m. and each Centre for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10—12 noon and 2—4 p.m. The Dental Clinic is open during the same hours as the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

(c) Midwifery.

An expectant mother can have the services of a doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner Services organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at the Local Health Authority Clinic, the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic at Ryton. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided. The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the District midwives are given below.

Ward	Name	Address
Ryton	Miss M. Stobart	37 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill
Crawcrook	Mrs. I. Hall	'Zion,' Sunnygill, Greenside
Greenside		Tel. No. Ryton 2167

(d) Health Visiting.

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes for the purpose of giving advice to expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children, and to aged or ill persons; also to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names and addresses of the District Health Visitors and the number and types of domiciliary visits carried out in Ryton Urban District are given below.

Ward	Name	Address
Ryton	Miss E. V. Henrich	East Home, Greenside
Addison		
Greenside	Mrs. F. M. Cavanagh	2, Woodlands Road, Shotley Bridge
Hedgefield		Tel. No. Shotley Bridge 3158
Woodside		

Domiciliary Visits :

Maternity and Child Welfare	1,839
Tuberculosis	140
Mentally Sub-normal	105
Schools	226
General Health	16
Aged People	204
Total.....	<u>2,530</u>

(e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided in the District as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for the services of a Home Nurse

should be made to the Superintendent of Home Nursing at County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411); or to one of the District Nurses whose names, addresses and telephone numbers are listed below.

	Ward	Name	Address	Tel. No.
Ryton	Mrs. K. Waggott	6, Runhead Estate, Ryton	Ryton 2426
Greenside	Miss H. Robinson	West House, Greenside	Ryton 2332
Crawcrook	Mrs. E. L. Adamson	Bank Top Cottage, Crawcrook	Ryton 2461

11,584 visits were made in Ryton Urban District by the District Nurses during the year.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service General Practitioner Service; and, for children, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus may also be obtained free of charge on application to Maternity and Child Welfare Centres; or from any General Practitioner in the National Health Service.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic at Whickham. A scheme for the vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years is now being carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available free of charge for all unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for all expectant mothers, and for certain other specified persons, on application to general practitioners, at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, to the County Health Department in Durham or to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area. Sessions were also arranged at clinics in the District where eligible persons may receive such protection. Protection by oral vaccine, as well as by injection, is now offered.

(g) Ambulance Service.

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Headquarters Control, Framwellgate Moor, Durham (Telephone No. — Durham 3426) which is responsible for such service in Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts. The Centre is open for message reception for 24 hours a day.

A General Service Sub-Depot at Winlaton deals, on instructions from Durham, with routine work of the service from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Area are given below.

Stretcher Cases	Sitting Cases	Journeys	Miles
1,593	18,167	3,782	107,636

(h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.

Nursing equipment is provided for sick persons, on request by medical practitioners, district nurses and hospital almoners. Invalid chairs are also available and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for this service, but in certain circumstances, the charge may be reduced or waived altogether.

The underlisted equipment can be so supplied and equipment was received by 60 residents of Ryton Urban District during 1963.

Air Rings	Bedrests	Mattresses (Sorbo)
Bed-Cages	Adult Cots	Rubber Sheeting
Bed-Packs	Commodore	Fracture Boards
Bedsteads (Iron)	Chairs (Push)	Eneuresis Sets
Lifting Poles	Chairs (Junior Push)	Junior Spinal Carriages
Dunlopillo Cushions	Chairs (Rim-driven)	Urinals
Bedpans	Leg Rests	

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and the County Council and information can be obtained from the County Health Department. Domiciliary visits are made to patients at home by Health Visitors and District Nurses.

(i) Home Help Services.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is ill, an expectant mother, lying-in, mentally ill, aged or a child not over school age. Requests for the services of a Home Help can be made to the Assistant Organiser for the Area Miss Rowlands, 65, Wakenshaw Road, Gilesgate, Durham who was appointed Assistant Organiser of Home Helps on the 16th December, 1963. Anyone wishing to contact her can do so at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, Axwell Park, Blaydon, every Friday morning between 9 and 11 a.m. (Tel. No. Blaydon 3291); or at the County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411) on other weekdays.

Mrs. L. Caley of Ryton who has been Assistant Home Help Organiser for the Area for thirteen years retired on the 30th November, 1963, and I would like to express appreciation of her earnest and untiring services during her term of office.

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) during the year are given below.

Number of cases at 1-1-63	360
New cases served during the year	233
Total number of cases served during the year	593
Cases terminated during the year	182

Cases served at 31-12-63	411
Number of Home Helps employed at 31-12-63	244
Visits made by Asst. County Organiser during year	5,074

(j) Mental Health.

Under the Mental Health Act, the Local Health Authority is responsible for the domiciliary supervision, care and after-care of the mentally sick and the educationally sub-normal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Sub-normal of the County has been opened at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also, at Gateshead, a Day Centre for the Educationally Sub-normal, which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.

(2) Local Sanitary Authority.

The Urban District Council is the Local Sanitary Authority and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

Executive Council Provision.

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services for the District. Medical practices are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

EDUCATION ACT, 1944.

Local Authority.

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

School Health Services.

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. They are in charge of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for the systematic medical inspection and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where a School Medical Officer attends on a sessional basis and also has routine attendances at the actual schools medically supervised.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family

doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. Arrangements are made when necessary for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

HOUSING ACT, 1924-1957.

Further progress was made in connection with the Council's housing site at Emmaville, comprising 22 Aged Person's bungalows and 20 Single Person's flats. All the bungalows are occupied together with 8 of the flats. The erection of a warden's flat and communal centre on this estate was completed during the year.

Plans for the development of a further estate of bungalows and flats, together with a communal centre and warden's accommodation, were approved during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951.

Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes and it has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. Whilst there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and the National Assistance Board, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, no recourse to compulsory powers has been needed.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at :

"The Hermitage," Front Street, Whickham Tel. No. Whickham 887372

"Winton House," Parkhead Estate, Winlaton Tel. No. Blaydon 290

In May, 1963, work commenced in connection with a County Council hostel at Fern Dene Park, Ryton. This hostel will provide 45 beds together with dining room, lounge, quiet room, visitors room, utility rooms and laundry together with residential accommodation for the matron and assistant matron.

Residents of the District requiring such type of accommodation can, in addition, be admitted to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

At the end of the year, 22 residents of Ryton Urban District were in residential Part III Accommodation, 16 males and 6 females.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.

Under the above Section, Local Authorities are required to arrange for **the** burial or cremation of the dead where no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are otherwise available. No instance arose in 1963 where it was necessary to use the powers provided.

IV. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

PREVALENCE.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was **246** compared with 7 in 1962. Details are as follows :—

DISEASE	NO. OF CASES		REMARKS
	1963	1962	
Scarlet Fever	2	—	
Whooping Cough	2	2	
Diphtheria	—	—	
Measles	238	—	
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	
Meningo-coccal Infection	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	
Smallpox	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	
Typhoid Fever	—	—	
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	
Food poisoning	—	—	
Tuberculosis Respiratory	4	5	
" Meninges &	—	—	
C.N.S.	—	—	
" Other Forms	—	—	
Totals	246	7	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1963, SHOWING AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION :

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Age unknown	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever				2							2
Whooping Cough		1		1							2
Diphtheria											
Measles	10	61	66	98	3						238
Acute Pneumonia											1
Meningococcal Infection											1
Acute Poliomyelitis											
Paralytic											
Non-Paralytic											
Acute Encephalitis											
Smallpox											
Ophthalmia neonatorum											
Puerperal Pyrexia											
Erysipelas											
Dysentery											
Typhoid Fever											
Paratyphoid Fevers											
Food Poisoning											
Tuberculosis											
Respiratory							1	3			4
Meninges and C.N.S.											
Other Forms											
TOTALS	10	62	66	101	3		1	3			246

Incidence of Principal Infectious Diseases since 1953 (excluding Tuberculosis)

Year	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Typhoid and Paratyphoid		Measles		Whooping Cough	
	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths
1953	12	—	1	—	—	—	110	—	65	—
1954	2	—	—	—	—	—	66	—	4	—
1955	2	—	—	—	—	—	309	—	48	—
1956	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
1957	2	—	—	—	—	—	326	—	39	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	24	—
1959	3	—	—	—	—	—	170	—	—	—
1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1961	2	—	—	—	—	—	303	—	1	—
1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
1964	2	—	—	—	—	—	238	—	2	—

Scarlet Fever.

The policy of home treatment of this disease has continued where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation has been considered necessary, this has always been possible to arrange by admission to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Diphtheria.

For the 10th year in succession, no cases of diphtheria were notified in the District.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox were notified.

Dysentery.

No cases of dysentery were notified.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis.

4 cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year. One death from this disease was reported. Details of the incidence of this disease

and the number of persons currently registered are given below :—
New Cases and Mortality during 1963.

Age Periods (year)		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44	....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—64	....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	....	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Tuberculosis Register

		Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Total		
		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
On register at 1/1/63	....	33	40	73	3	2	5	36	42	78
New Cases	....	4	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	4
Cases removed into District		1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
TOTAL	....	38	41	79	3	2	5	41	43	84
Recovered	....	5	5	10	1	—	1	6	5	11
Cases removed out of District		1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
Died	....	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
On register at 31/12/63	....	32	34	66	2	2	4	34	36	70

CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for protection, against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis, of residents in the District.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection against these infections can be given separately or jointly and the figures below give information of the numbers so immunised :—

Diphtheria.

	1960	1961	1962	1963
Primary	13	111	77	89
Boosters	5	2	—	—
	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 113	<hr/> 77	<hr/> 89

Whooping Cough.

	1960	1961	1962	1963
Primary	13	109	77	89
Boosters	5	1	—	38
	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 110	<hr/> 77	<hr/> 127

Tetanus.

	1960	1961	1962	1963
Primary	12	103	77	88
Boosters	3	2	—	—
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 105	<hr/> 77	<hr/> 88

Poliomyelitis.

Area Statistics.

By the 31st December, 1963, 24,787 persons had received primary poliomyelitis immunisation in the Area comprising the Urban Districts of Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham. Of these 18,167 had received their booster doses in addition.

District Statistics.

During 1963 10 primary courses of Salk injection were given in addition to third injections and 2 fourth injections.

175 booster doses and 300 primary courses of oral vaccine were given during the year.

Smallpox.

Primary Vaccination					
Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years or over	Total
33	16	—	8	10	67

Re-Vaccination					Total
Under 1 year —	1 year —	2-4 years —	5-14 years —	15 years or over 7	

Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

School	Number Vaccinated	Number Heaf Positive	Non Consents	Total in age group
Ryton Modern	177	25	3	230
Crawcrook Roman Catholic....	15	4	4	26
	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	192	29	7	256
	—	—	—	—

V. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

1. Water Supply.

The supply of water for the District is provided by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. except for thirteen houses in the Blaydon Burn area, which are supplied by the Durham County Water Board, and five houses in isolated parts of the District, which depend on wells and springs.

The mains water is of good quality and the supply is continuous and plentiful.

Samples taken from the wells were found on analysis to be of satisfactory bacteriological standard and the supplies from these sources proved adequate during the year.

	Houses	Population
Number supplied from public water mains direct to houses	4,841	13,963
Number supplied from wells and springs	5	17
	<hr/> 4,846	<hr/> 13,980

(a) Durham County Water Board.

13 premises in this District are supplied by the Board.

Of the 23 samples taken to check the bacteriological quality of the water, none were found unsatisfactory and 19 were classed as excellent.

Apart from the usual extensions of mains required by housing developments no major works were carried out by the Board.

Work on the new Honey Hill Treatment Works, referred to in last year's report, is still progressing and will, when completed, supply an improved quality of water to this and adjacent Districts.

(b) Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

Approximately 4,800 premises in this District are supplied by the Company.

Throughout the region supplied by the Company, of 1,250 samples taken all but one were classified as of excellent quality, the exception being classified as satisfactory. Independent samples were, on complete investigation, also of the same high standard.

A further 465 yards of 4" diameter new water pipes were laid in connection with industrial and housing development during the year.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No formal action under this heading was required during the year. The condition of Westburn, Crawcrook, continued to give cause for concern due to the obstructed nature of the watercourse and the discharge of sewage effluent thereto in close proximity to the newly erected dwelling-houses.

Consideration was given to the replacement of two small sewage disposal

plants by a pumping station, a most desirable objective if nuisance is to be avoided.

3. Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of some agricultural properties and nine dwellinghouses in unsewered parts of the District, all houses are equipped with water closets. The elimination of all privies and ash closets and their conversion to a watercarriage system is a matter worthy of every possible effort. Apart from the health aspect of the continued use of insanitary accommodation, there is increasing reluctance on the part of labour to empty and cleanse such closet accommodation.

Two conversions were completed during the year and a further five dwellings, deficient in modern sanitation, were vacated under the slum clearance scheme. Whilst, therefore, a gradual elimination of insanitary accommodation is taking place, it is hoped that further progress will be made in the future, possibly with the aid of the standard grant provisions.

4. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The Council is directly responsible for the whole of refuse removal and disposal in the District.

The majority of the houses are provided with dustbins, which are emptied twice weekly where necessary; the remainder are emptied once a week. The service was constantly maintained throughout the year during which 29,926 receptacles were emptied, the estimated tonnage disposed of being 7,300.

Four collection vehicles of the following types were used :—

Karrier C.K. 3	1949	10 cu. yd. capacity
Karrier Gamecock	1955	10 cu. yd. capacity
Karrier Bantam	1956	7 cu. yd. capacity
Karrier Gamecock	1959	10 cu. yd. capacity

At the commencement of the year, refuse was disposed of at the following tipping sites :—

- 1. Cawcrook Quarry
- 2. Barlow Lane

As a result of housing development in the vicinity of the tips and since the available tipping space at Barlow was filled, it was decided to dispose of all refuse at one point, namely Burnhills Quarry. This quarry provides excellent tipping facilities, is remote from housing development and meets all requirements. As a result of the longer hauls which this arrangement necessitated, consideration was given to the provision of a large capacity vehicle to replace one of the smaller side-loading vehicles.

5. Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically all sewage is discharged, untreated, into the River Tyne by three main and two subsidiary outfalls. Exceptions to this are the properties at Coalburns and dwellinghouses at Westburn, which discharge to local treatment plants.

In practice it is considered that these small type sewage disposal plants, which serve a useful purpose for isolated development, are not satisfactory in the centre of urban development. They seldom produce an effluent of really good quality and can give rise to nuisance, particularly from odour. So far as future development is concerned, a comprehensive sewerage system for the District would be preferable to the installation of a number of small works throughout the District.

6. Atmospheric Pollution.

Volumetric apparatus for the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations was installed during the year and measurements commenced in July. A summary of the results for the completed months is given below :—

Period	Smoke Results (Microgrammes/cu.metre)		Sulphur Dioxide Results (Microgrammes/cu.metre)	
	Average	Highest Daily	Average	Highest Daily
30-7-63—2-9-63	68	140	34	69
3-9-63—30-9-63	121	296	50	65
1-10-63—28-10-63	129	327	52	73
29-10-63—2-12-63	208	510	84	114

7. Noise Abatement.

Under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, which came into force on 27th November, 1960, noise or vibration which amounts to a nuisance at Common Law becomes a statutory nuisance to be dealt with in accordance with the procedure of the Public Health Act, 1936. Local Authorities are empowered to serve, where applicable, abatement notices upon the person or persons in default. The Act does not apply to aircraft or to noise caused by statutory undertakers in the performance of their powers. Special provision is made in the case of noise arising from a trade or business and in the case of loud speakers used in the streets.

One complaint was dealt with informally during the year.

8. Moveable Dwellings and Caravan Sites.

Licences were in force during the year in respect of two sites in the District, relating to the stationing of a single caravan at each site.

9. Shops Act, 1950.

The main provisions of this Act are administered by the County Council except for requirements relating to temperature, ventilation and sanitary accommodation.

Shop premises were inspected during the year and it was found that conditions in these respects were satisfactory.

Three instances arose where it was found that the shop temperature was not maintained at a level sufficient to ensure comfortable conditions for employees and in each case the matter was rectified by an informal approach to the proprietors.

10. Factories.

Twenty-one factories remain registered, categorised as follows :—

Building Trade premises	2
Garages	4
Television Repairs	3
Slaughterhouses	2
Bakeries	3
Joineries	3
Brick and Tile Manufacturers	1
Boot Repairers	1
Electrical Repairs	1
Adhesives	1

All factories were visited regularly and conditions found to be generally satisfactory. In eight instances, it was necessary to make requirements concerning matters for which this Council is administratively responsible.

11. Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

12. Licensed Premises and Clubs.

These are listed in the register of food premises and were inspected regularly under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955/1960.

13. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Rodent Control.

Treatment of the Council's sewers is carried out regularly, in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and has undoubtedly played a major part in controlling rat infestations in the District. All complaints received are investigated and advice given on suitable methods of treatment. Treatment of business premises is carried out on a re-chargeable basis and, in other cases, baits and poison are laid free of charge. The policy of the Council is to encourage notification of rat infestations and to co-operate to the fullest possible extent to secure the destruction of rats and mice. In many cases it is found that rat infestation is primarily due to unsatisfactory environmental conditions on the site; as examples, the keeping of animals in insanitary conditions, the haphazard storage of feeding stuffs and the insanitary state of gardens, garden sheds, etc. Every opportunity is taken, where infestation occurs, to eradicate the unsatisfactory conditions which are so often a feature of the locality affected.

A summary of the work carried out is given below :

Number of Properties in District	5,378
Number of Properties inspected	2,444

Number of properties inspected, found to be infested with :—

(a) Rats, major infestations	Nil
Rats, minor infestations	47
(b) Mice	17

In the case of business premises, necessary treatment is given on a rechargeable basis. A standard charge of 6/- per hour to cover labour and materials, is made.

No. of Properties treated :—

	Dwelling-houses	Business premises	Agricultural premises	Local Authority premises
Rats	72	28	21	4
Mice	16	10	—	—

Insect Control.

Insect infestation does not present a serious problem in the District. Such complaints as are received relate usually to the more common household insects which are not regarded as of particular public health significance. Infestations by ants, cockroaches and silverfish have been dealt with but the number of complaints received has tended to diminish, possibly due to the availability, by public sale, of effective fumigants and powders. The higher standards of house building also tend to reduce infestations of this nature which are more often reported from the older, terrace type properties.

14. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act was passed on the 31st July, 1963. The Act is intended to make provision for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in such premises. The Act will come into force, in stages, commencing on 18th February, 1964.

15. Cinemas.

There are no cinemas which are used as such within the District.

16. Swimming Pool.

The open air swimming pool provided by the Council at Ferndene Park is filled from the main supply and treatment is provided by filtration, chlorination and aeration. Regular samples of the water were taken during the season and submitted for bacteriological examination. The result in every case showed the samples of water to be of the highest attainable bacteriological standard.

17. Disinfection of Houses.

In cases of infectious disease, disinfectants are supplied by the Council free of charge. In practice it is found that now such supply is required only in the case of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

18. Mortuary.

There is one mortuary within the District, situated at Ryton Cemetery.

19. Schools.

The condition of the schools in the District is satisfactory.

20. Recreation Grounds.

The recreation parks, at Ferndene, Ryton, and Garden House, Crawcrook, add considerably to the amenities of the District, Gardens, pavilions, bowling greens, tennis courts, putting greens, children's playgrounds, a paddling pool and an open air swimming pool have been provided. The provision of these amenities makes a notable contribution to the general health of the community.

Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied.

	No. of inspections	No. of informal notices served	No. of statutory notices served	Defects Remedied
Housing :—				
Public Health and Housing Acts	1946	263	10	426
Overcrowding	72	—	—	2
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	8	8	—	8
Defective	26	14	—	32
Drainage	72	26	—	32
Water Supply	14	—	—	—
Food Premises	358	63	—	65
Shops Act	44	—	—	2
Slaughterhouses :—				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	210	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc.	26	18	—	6
Factories and Workplaces	238	14	—	23
Keeping of Animals	35	2	—	2
Insanitary Ashpits	96	24	—	62
Offensive Accumulations	4	3	—	3
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	184	—	—	—
Noise Abatement	—	—	—	—
Infectious Disease	—	—	—	—
	3333	435	10	663

VI. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Milk Products.

The District is part of a specified area in which only milk of special designation may be sold.

Dairies.

Two dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at dairy farms in the District is carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Distributors.

By virtue of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the licensing of dealers was transferred to the County Council as the local Food and Drugs Authority.

Milk Sampling.

Number of samples obtained during 1963 :— 17.

These were as follows :—

Tuebrculin Tested	4
Pasteurised	10
Sterilised	3

All samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and all passed the prescribed tests.

Ice-Cream.

Two premises are registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream, in one of which the cold mix process is used. The other premises has been fitted with modern plant to meet the requirements of the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952. The ice-cream is manufactured under very satisfactory conditions. Thirty-four other premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

2. Meat and Meat Products.

There are two private slaughterhouses within the District, both situated at Greenside. Both premises were modernised in accordance with the Slaughterhouse Construction Regulations and provide a good standard of accommodation.

211 beasts, 560 sheep and 23 pigs were slaughtered during the year.

No case of cysticercus bovis was encountered and in only one carcase was evidence of tuberculosis found.

Five slaughterman's licences were renewed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, for a period of twelve months.

The table indicates the number of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	211	—	—	560	23
Number inspected	211	—	—	560	23
All Diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticercosis.					
Whole Carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	9.5%	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Only					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.0	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis Only					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally ....condemned	—	—	—	—	—

3. Other Foods.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered by traders after being found unfit for human consumption. Disposal is by burial on the Council's refuse tips.

	Tins		Tins
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	Evaporated Milk	1
Beans	2	Pineapple	1
Peaches	4	Apricots	1
Strawberries	1	Oranges	1
Peas	2	Chopped Pork	7
Tomatoes	11		

The approximate weight of these foodstuffs was 40 lbs.

4. Food Premises.

The following is a summary of food premises in the District, showing the principal trade carried on in each case. In many cases, other commodities are sold in addition to the principal trade.

Number and Classification — Total.

Public Houses	11	Hospital Kitchen	1
Social Clubs	5	Fruiterers	6
Other licensed premises	3	Confectioners	21
Grocers	32	Fishmongers	7
Butchers	15	Flour confectionery	5

402 inspections and re-inspections were carried out. Offences against the Food Hygiene Regulations, in respect of which 63 informal notices were served, were of a minor nature and, through the co-operation of the traders concerned, were immediately rectified.

5. Food Sampling.

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforces the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

List of samples taken in the Ryton Urban District during the year is given below :—

- 16 Milk
- 1 Sultanas
- 1 Lemonade Powder
- 2 Rice
- 1 Dates
- 1 Orange Squash
- 1 Beef Pies
- 1 Chocolate Coconut Sweets
- 1 Chocolate Watches Sweets
- 1 Butter
- 1 Black Pudding
- 1 Pork Sausage (preserved)
- 2 Beef Sausage (preserved)
- 2 Beer
- 1 Dried Egg

- 1 Baking Powder
- 1 Mixed Spice
- 1 Ground Ginger
- 1 Tea
- 1 Butter Beans
- 1 Seed Tapioca
- 1 Pearl Barley
- 1 Macaroni
- 1 Dried Sage
- 1 Blackberries in Syrup
- 1 Strawberries in Syrup
- 1 Prunes in Syrup
- 1 Whole Almonds
- 1 Currants
- 1 Bi-carbonate of Soda
- 1 Granulated Sugar
- 1 Oatmeal
- 1 Creamed Rice Pudding
- 2 Rice Milk Pudding
- 1 Corned Beef
- 2 Dairy Cream

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VII.

HOUSING

All complaints regarding unsatisfactory housing conditions and structural defects were investigated and appropriate action taken where necessary.

During the year, the Council completed the building of twenty-five houses.

The majority of the existing houses are of modern construction and most of them well-built; the new streets are well planned and there is practically no crowding of houses in confined yards and courts. In addition, the District enjoys the natural advantages of being situated on rising ground and in being surrounded by open country.

By the end of the year, the two hundred and fourteen houses, originally scheduled for slum clearance had been dealt with. A further twenty-six properties were represented to the Council for action under the Housing Act and it was agreed that these should be added to the Council's programme. One house was closed, and 4 demolished, and 12 tenants were rehoused from sub-standard properties.

Building Progress.

Since 1st January, 1920, the following building has taken place :—

Houses built by Council	1583
Houses built by private enterprise	980
	<hr/>
Total	2563

Since 1945 :—

Houses built by Council	942
Houses built by private enterprise	335
	<hr/>
Total	1277

HOUSING NEED SUMMARY

Year ending	Live Applica- tions	One Family in House	Number and size of families where two or more families in house							
			NUMBER IN FAMILY							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	Over 6	Total
December 1948	809	360	4	179	190	54	17	5	—	449
December 1949	854	371	5	201	199	49	19	8	2	483
December 1950	911	408	6	217	202	54	17	6	1	503
December 1951	622	261	4	162	146	37	9	2	1	361
December 1952	569	237	2	147	140	33	7	2	1	322
December 1953	510	214	2	129	114	39	7	3	2	296
December 1954	458	207	—	123	90	27	7	4	—	251
December 1955	400	201	—	100	64	25	4	5	1	199
December 1956	330	172	—	92	40	17	5	3	1	158
December 1957	365	177	—	105	56	17	8	1	1	188
December 1958	315	151	—	90	56	11	4	1	2	164
December 1959	312	148	—	89	53	17	4	—	1	164
December 1960	268	131	2	68	50	14	2	—	1	137
December 1961	288	147	3	81	46	9	—	1	1	141
December 1962	289	160	—	65	41	15	3	1	1	129
December 1963	269	160	—	58	33	13	4	—	1	109

Housing applications from Aged Persons 60

Housing applications from Single Persons 114

Applications for housing accommodation, which are not renewed at the expiration of twelve months and every subsequent twelve months, are removed from the list of applicants.

Overcrowding.

One case of overcrowding was revealed during the year and it was agreed to offer suitable accommodation when it became available.

Housing Applications during 1963 :

From sub-tenants	45
From tenants	38
From aged persons	31
From single persons	29

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

During the year, 83 applications for standard grants were received, and 80 approved. Of the applications approved, 72 were from owner-occupiers and 8 related to tenanted houses. Since the inception of the scheme in June, 1959, there has been a total of 194 grants paid, amounting in all to the sum of £16,480-12-7d.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

The Council decided to extend improvement grants and to give consideration to applications for Discretionary Grants and also to make loans in appropriate cases to cover the owner's share of the cost. Fifteen such applications were approved amounting to the total sum of £4,079-17-5d.

One such grant was paid during the year.

Appendix

Factories Act, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1963
for the Urban District of Ryton in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part I of the Act

1—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises	Number of Premises on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	21	238	14	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	21	238	14	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	2	2	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Sufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	8	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	14	14	—	—	—

There are no outworkers registered in the District.

LIST OF BYELAWS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT

Date of Adoption				Title
14th May, 1902	....	....	....	Drainage of existing buildings.
14th May, 1902	....	....	....	Nuisances.
14th May, 1902	....	....	....	Slaughter Houses.
14th May, 1902	....	....	....	Houses let in Lodgings.
9th September, 1903	....	....	....	Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures.
12th January, 1921	....	....	....	Byelaws and Regulations with respect to the charges for the use of the cemetery at Ryton.
8th February, 1928	....	....	....	Relating to new streets.
12th February, 1930	....	....	....	A Scheme for the Regulation and Management of a common known as Ryton Willows and Reed Side. The Commons Act, 1899.
12th April, 1950	....	....	....	Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.
1st September, 1951	....	....	....	Fouling of footways by Dogs.
1st September, 1951	....	....	....	Nuisances contrary to Public Decency.
9th September, 1953	....	....	....	Building Byelaws.
1st March, 1954	....	....	....	Deposit of mud and other materials on highways.
1st August, 1957	....	....	....	Preservation of Road Margins.
12th May, 1960	....	....	....	Building Byelaws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health—

JOHN A. DRYDEN, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Public Health Inspector—

L. G. DANSIE, Cert.R.S.I., and S.I.E.J.B., Cert. Meat and other foods

Health Department Clerk—

Miss J. DODD (commenced 19th August, 1963)

